OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6341 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATUTE OF REPOSE FOR ASBESTOS-RELATED PRODUCT LIABILITY CLAIMS.

SUMMARY:

This bill increases, from 60 to 80 years after a person's last contact with or exposure to asbestos, the period during which the person can bring a lawsuit for personal injury or death caused by such contact or exposure. The period for lawsuits relating to asbestos-related property damage remains at 30 years after the last contact or exposure.

By law, for any asbestos-related product liability lawsuit (whether for personal injuries or property damage), the claimant must bring the lawsuit within three years of the date the injury or damage was first sustained or discovered, or should have been discovered in exercising reasonable care.

*House Amendment "A" increases the time for bringing an asbestos-related personal injury or death action from 60 to 80 years as described above, whereas the original file eliminated the 60- and 30-year limits for asbestos-related actions for personal injury and property damage, respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, and applicable to any cause of action arising from contact with or exposure to asbestos occurring before, on, or after passage.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 24 Nay 15 (04/14/2011)